

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Apparatus for keeping a receiving material flat against a plate during the application of an ink image thereto, wherein the plate is provided with V-shaped channels which extend in the direction in which the receiving material is movable  
5 stepwise over the plate. Ribs which separate the channels from one another are provided with suction openings in order to draw, by negative pressure, bubbles which have been formed by moisture absorption in the receiving material, into the channels in order to prevent the bubbles from coming into contact with ink application means movable over the plate. The outermost channels are provided with suction openings in  
10 the channel walls in order to keep wrinkles and corrugations at the sides of the receiving material out of contact with the ink application means.